

**REPORT/RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
AND RECORD OF ACTION**

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September 9, 2003

FROM: **GARY PENROD, Sheriff**
 Sheriff's Department

SUBJECT: OUT-OF-COUNTRY TRAVEL REQUEST

RECOMMENDATION: Approve out-of-country travel request for Captain Paul Cook and Lieutenant Leland Hamblin, of the Sheriff's Narcotics Division, to travel to Ottawa, Canada from October 28 – 31, 2003 to attend the National Methamphetamine Chemical Initiative (NMCI) Strategy Conference.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: On November 23, 1992, the Board of Supervisors' approved an amendment to the County's travel policy that requires all out-of-country travel requests be submitted to the Board for approval. In accordance with this directive, the Department is requesting approval for Captain Cook and Lieutenant Hamblin, of the Sheriff's Narcotics Division, to travel to Ottawa, Canada from October 28 – 31, 2003 to attend the NMCI Strategy Conference. This will be the first time the NMCI will be meeting with its Canadian counterparts. Canada is currently the world's leading exporter to the United States of pseudoephedrine, an ingredient critical to the manufacture of methamphetamine. This conference will provide a unique opportunity to address both countries' issues related to clandestine methamphetamine production, illicit sales, and supply chains.

Captain Cook is the commander of the Sheriff's Narcotics Division and is a member of a number of NMCI sub-committees. Lt. Hamblin is the co-chair of the NMCI and his attendance is expected as a representative of California's state and local law enforcement agencies.

REVIEW BY OTHERS: This agenda item has been reviewed and approved as to form by County Counsel (Kevin L. Norris, Deputy County Counsel) on August 26, 2003; and has been reviewed by the County Administrative Office (Mario Lara, Administrative Analyst) on August 28, 2003.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: The estimated cost of this trip, in the amount of \$3,217, will be fully funded by the Department's High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) grant award from the Office of National Drug Control Policy. There is no matching fund requirement associated with this grant; therefore, there is no local cost impact as a result of this request.

SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT(S): All

PRESENTER: Rod Hoops, Captain, 387-3637

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